



# NEWS RELEASE

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Release No.: 05312005-1

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## **JEANERETTE RECEIVES FUNDING FOR NEW WATER SYSTEM \$3.9 Million Presented to City**

JEANERETTE, May 31, 2005 – Congressman Charles Melancon joined USDA Rural Development State Director Michael B. Taylor in presenting over \$3.9 million to the City of Jeanerette to construct a new community water system.

This funding was originally announced by U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns on Earth Day—April 22, 2005.

“Each year USDA Rural Development celebrates Earth Day by presenting loan and grant funds to communities across America working to build and modernize water and wastewater disposal systems,” said Taylor. “This year, \$24.8 million in investments for Louisiana were announced—including the City of Jeanerette project.” A complete list of the selected loan and grant recipients and projects can be found at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rd/newsroom/news.htm>.

Jeanerette is now served by a water system that was constructed around 1950. The existing water plant will be abandoned, and a new plant will be constructed to meet the needs of Jeanerette’s residents. The new plant will include six pressure filters, six softeners, chlorination equipment, two ground storage tanks, and three water wells.

USDA Rural Development provides a full range of rural development credit services in rural Louisiana. The Louisiana USDA Rural Development State Office is located at 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana 71302, and the telephone number is (318) 473-7921. There are four area offices located throughout the state to serve Louisiana residents. Further information on USDA Rural Development’s loan and grant programs can be obtained by visiting Rural Development’s web site at: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

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